


NWS Form E-5 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS	HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA: Pocatello, Idaho
	REPORT FOR: MONTH: October YEAR: 2005
TO: Hydrologic Operations Division, W/OH2 National Weather Service National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Silver Spring, Maryland 20910	SIGNATURE  Sherrie Hebert Service Hydrologist
DATE: November 9, 2005	
When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924).	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">X</div>	An X in this box indicates that no flooding has occurred for the month within this hydrologic service area.

The 2006 Water Year is off to a great start with average precipitation already above normal for much of the Pocatello Hydrologic Service Area (HSA). With Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Outlooks indicating equal chance for normal, above or below normal precipitation, Eastern Idaho may again be in for a normal to slightly above normal winter. Such a winter would continue to improve the region's ongoing drought situation

Other Hydrologic Interests

Precipitation

October precipitation for the Pocatello HSA was 121.5% of normal for 40 of 44 reporting stations with climate data, according to Western Region Climate Center data. Of the reporting stations, 28 were above normal. Of those, Hamer, Blackfoot and Dubois were 267.8%, 252.2% and 245.1% of normal, respectively. Additionally, 12 stations were at least 150% of normal. For the second month in a row, Stanley tied its monthly record-low precipitation of 0.00 inches set in 1988. Chilly Barton Flats and Richfield were also quite below with 48.1% and 50.8% of normal, respectively.

Reservoirs

The Upper Snake River reservoir system is at 32% of capacity¹, up 5% from September 14, 2005.

Reservoir	% Capacity September 30 ²	% Capacity October 31 ³	Percent Change	% of Average ³	% of Last Year ³
American Falls	10	20	10	54	129
Bear Lake	25	24	-1	37	472
Blackfoot	18	20	2	34	425
Henry's Lake	91	92	1	105	137
Island Park	37	44	7	76	123
Little Wood	22	28	6	102	185
Mackay	16	23	7	85	270
Magic	20	20	0	58	302
Oakley	29	29	0	99	393
Palisades	40	41	1	59	180
Ririe	63	49	-14	118	145
Lake Walcott	43 ⁴	42 ⁵	-1	n/a	n/a

Source: (1) US Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), November 7, 2005; (2) NRCS, September 30, 2005; (3) NRCS, October 31, 2005; (4) BOR, September 14, 2005; (5) BOR, November 7, 2005.

Drought

Most of Eastern Idaho is rank in the D1, "Moderate" drought category on the US Drought Monitor. Only the northern section of the Pocatello HSA along the Idaho/Montana border ranks D2, "Severe", and very Southeastern Idaho is D0, "Abnormally Dry".

Hydrologic Product Summary

No hydrologic products were issued for October 2005

cc: Greg Smith, Acting WFO Hydrology Program Manager
Harold Opitz, HIC NWRFC
Hydrometeorological Information Center
Jim Meyer, MIC PIH
Jay Breidenbach, SH BOI
Greg Kaiser, Storm Data Focal Point PIH
Drought Monitor Mailing List